THE PANORAMA VILLAGE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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## Independence Day festivities making a comeback

The COVID-19 pandemic pretty much wiped out our Fourth of July celebration last year, but 2021 will see us take several steps in the direction of a return to our normal all-day program.

According to committee chair Barbara DeWitz, we will have our Freedom Parade on Sunday afternoon beginning at 5:00 pm. Start thinking about decorating your car, truck, trailer or golf cart now and come join the fun. Staging and sign in for the parade will take place in front of City Hall starting at 4:15 pm.

The swimming pool will be open all day, from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm and there is no charge to swim on July 4th. The Panorama Lions will be serving hot dogs at the Pavilion from noon to 3:00 pm and the Golf Club will have BBQ dinners for dine-in or take out from the clubhouse from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. The cost is \$16.95 per dinner and you must make a reservation by 1:00 pm on Thursday, July 1 by calling 936-856-5531 Ext 3.

Our evening entertainment will be the popular Houston band Runaway Radio. They were scheduled to play last year, but



we had to cancel at the last minute due to COVID restrictions. The band will play classic soft rock from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in front of the clubhouse. Bring your lawn

chairs and enjoy the music, followed by our fabulous 30-minute fireworks display beginning about 9:30 when it turns dark.

# Panorama mountain climber reaching for the clouds

Most of us have enough trouble climbing out of the recliner, but new Panorama resident Kari Henry Cook is training to climb one of the highest peaks in the Himalayas later this year. Kari and her longtime partner, Jim Cook, moved from Galveston to Panorama in February to be closer to grandchildren in the Dallas area, and are remodeling a home on Thunderbird adjoining the 18th fairway.

She only started climbing six years ago when she turned 50 with an impulse hike up Emory Peak in Big Bend National Park. Later her sister joined her on the more challenging Long's Peak Trail (14,259 feet elevation) in Colorado. They

didn't make it all the way to the top due to icy conditions, but did make it to the 12,000 foot mark without benefit of any special gear.

Kari has now added Mount Ranier in Washington State (14,441 feet) and Mount Athabasca in Canada (11,453 feet) to her list, and is training for a trip to the 20,305 foot Island Peak (Imja Tse) in the Himalaya region of Nepal in October. The Himalayan trip has now been postponed three times due the worldwide pandemic.

Next time you start thinking our Panorama streets are too hilly, maybe you can give Kari a call for a quick pep talk!



### ON THE TEE BOX With Ruthie McGrath

The Pro Shop is an important place at Panorama Golf Club and has many employees that help the golf course provide all the services members need. I interviewed a number of them and learned more about them.

Jennifer Greer is the Pro Shop Manager. She takes care of the day in and day out management and supports the staff in anything they need, such as managing tournaments. While in the Pro Shop she helps with checking in customers, answering the phone, booking tee times, taking payments and making sure the needs of customers are met. She also works in the bar area when needed. Jennifer is a Panorama resident and lives on the golf course which makes it only seconds away if she is needed.

Kelly Baxter has worked at Panorama Golf Club for a little over three years. She just recently was promoted to Assistant Golf Professional. She helps manage the Pro Shop as well as run and set up tournaments. She is currently going through the PGA Apprenticeship Program to get her PGA license and is now giving lessons and is trying to help promote the Junior Golf Program at Panorama.

Brooke Bartlett is another Pro Shop employee. She has worked here since 2016, her sophomore year in high school. She is now a senior at Stephen F. Austin State University getting a degree in Nursing. She works here in the summer. She schedules tee times, greets players, gives directions to new golfers, answers the phone, signs up new members and restocks snacks and the fridge. Brooke says she loves interacting with the members and meeting new people.

Aleah Barajas is another employee inside the Pro Shop and also drives the beverage cart. She has worked at Panorama Golf Club for a year and a half. She attends Sam Houston State University and is applying for the Nursing program there for the fall semester. Coy Hammit is also an employee in the ProShop. I was unable to talk with Coy before my deadline, but I know he has been a dependable addition to the ProShop staff.

We are fortunate to have these employees and now you know a little more about them but one thing is evident; their hard work and helpfulness makes our club a pleasant place to come and enjoy a round of golf.



#### Garden Club Gives Schroeder Park a makeover

With able assistance from master gardener Vickie Pullen of Rustic Ridge Gardens in Willis, a crew from the Panorama Garden Club has given the Schroeder Park landscaping a much needed facelift.

The main flower bed at the corner of Panorama Drive and Greenbriar was completely replanted, and plants around the gazebo were repositioned and transplanted to more appropriate locations in the park. Crew members also removed "blight" from many of the crepe myrtles.

We really appreciate the volunteer efforts of these good hearted Panorama neighbors! Thanks to all for your fine work!

#### Yard of the Month

Pam and Charles Burditt 4 Winged Foot Drive



#### Flags still available

Subscriptions to the Panorama Lions Club Flags With Pride program are still available for \$40 per flag. These flags are posted on major holidays in front of Panorama houses by Lions members, and the proceeds are used to fund Lions support of worthy non-profit organizations. Call Butch Bateman at 936-523-0323 if you would like to add your name to the list.

The Panorama Village Voice is published monthly by Bob Lamons, Editor. Call 713-828-7000 or email bob.lamons@sbcglobal.net to submit article suggestions.